

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kuniyasu MATSUMOTO, et al.

Application No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: March 29, 2004

Examiner:

For: LAYING DEVICE FOR LAYING LINE ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. ☒ Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. ☒ Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c. ☐ An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. ☐ English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
- 1e. ☒ Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.

2. ☒ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is

(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)

- 2a. ☐ satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, pp. 600-100 to 600-101, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000.)
- 2b. ☒ set forth in the application.

- 2c. ☐ satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
- 2d. ☒ enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Dated: March 29, 2004
1201 New York Ave., N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

By: 
H. J. Staas
Registration No. 22,010

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1785.1014	APPLICATION NO.
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Kuniyasu MATSUMOTO, et al.	
	FILING DATE March 29, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	6,431,018	08/2002	Okada et al.			
	AB						
	AC						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AD	1 083 030 A2	03/2001	European Patent Office				
	AE	2001-150382	06/2001	Japan				X
	AF	10-329079	12/1998	Japan				X
	AG	2002-79487	03/2002	Japan				X
	AH	5-293788	11/1993	Japan				X
	AI	5-138580	06/1993	Japan				X
	AJ	11-504869	05/1999	Japan				X
	AK	97/26118	07/1997	WIPO				X

OTHER REFERENCES (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

			TRANSLATION YES NO
	AL		
	AM		
	AN		
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED	
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.			

ATTACHMENT 1(e)

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1785.1014	APPLICATION NO.
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Kuniyasu MATSUMOTO, et al.	
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Japanese reference AE corresponds to U.S. reference AA.

Japanese reference AJ corresponds to WIPO (English language) reference AK.